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A note on Heterochromia iridis

"Her eyes are so adorable, but one of them is blue". . . . so runs an old Arthur Daley/Terence Christmas jingle. Sector pigmentation of one eye is common and is ascribed to persistence of the pupillary membrane. Irides of totally different colour are well known, harmless but rare. Aristotle named it *heteroglaukos* (Gk glaukos, sea-green). The Emperor Anastasios I probably had this condition and was generally called Dicorus. Alexander the Great was similarly affected.¹

The association with deafness constitutes Waardenburg's syndrome and heterochromia iridis may be seen in congenital Horner's syndrome, the affected side being blue or depigmented in comparison with the normal side.

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